

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 23, 24, 30, 31, 33 and 35 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, add new Claims 36 to 39, and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A print system[[,.]] in which includes a printer ~~and a host~~ computer, each of which includes arranged to connect to a host computer via a communication interface, wherein the printer includes a read-out unit for reading out image data from a recording medium on which the image data is recorded, an operation panel having thereon a print start button, a print setting button, and a preview display button, a printer engine for performing printing, and a print control unit for, in response to depression of the print start button, generating print data from the image data read out by the read-out unit in accordance with print settings provided based on operation of the print setting button, and for causing the print engine to print the generated print data for transmitting and receiving information in real time, are connected to each other to communicate with each other,

the printer further comprising:

a print setting event transmitting unit for transmitting the image data read out by the read-out unit to the host computer via the communication interface if the preview display button of the operation panel is depressed, and for generating a print setting event and transmitting the generated print setting event to the host computer, if the print setting button is operated after the preview display button is once depressed;

a print start event transmitting unit for generating a print start event and transmitting the generated print start event to the host computer, if the print start button is operated after the preview display button is once depressed; and

a receiving unit for receiving print data which the host computer transmits to the printer on the basis of the print start event transmitted by the print start event transmitting unit,

wherein the print control unit controls the printer engine to print the print data received by the receiving unit, and

the host computer comprising:

a display unit for receiving the image data transmitted by the print setting event transmitting unit in response to depression of the preview display button, and displaying the received image data on a display apparatus;

an update unit for discriminating the print setting event transmitted to the host computer by the print setting event transmitting unit and updating the image data displayed on the display apparatus on the basis of the discriminated print setting event; and

a control unit for discriminating the print start event transmitted by the print start event transmitting unit to the host computer, and for generating the print data from the image data transmitted to the host computer by the print setting event transmitting unit and transmitting the generated print data to the printer via the communication interface.

a read-out unit for reading out image data from a detachable recording medium of the printer;

an operation panel including a plurality of operation members, each for receiving an instruction from a user, wherein the plurality of operation members includes

at least a print instruction button, a preview display button, and a print setting button;

a printer engine for performing printing;

an operation panel controller for effecting control so as to cause the printer engine to print the image data read out from the detachable recording medium of the printer if the print instruction button is operated by the user without operating the preview display button, and if one of the print instruction button and the print setting button is operated by the user subsequently to operation of the preview display button, generate a corresponding interruption event to transmit the generated interruption event to the host computer via the communication interface of the printer so that the printer engine effects printing in accordance with a print instruction including print image data being received from the host computer when the print instruction button is operated subsequently to the operation to the preview display button; and

a transmission unit for transmitting, via the communication interface of the printer, the image data which is read out by the read-out unit; and

the host computer comprising:

an interruption controller for, in response to the preview display button being operated, detecting the interruption event transmitted by the printer;

a receiving unit for receiving, from the printer, the print setting information generated by the printer and the image data read out from the detachable recording medium of the printer, if the interruption controller detects that the interruption event transmitted by the printer is the corresponding interruption event which is generated and transmitted by the operation panel controller of the printer in accordance with the print setting button being operated subsequently to the operation of the preview display button;

a display control unit for causing a display apparatus to effect a print preview display on the basis of the print setting information and image data received by the receiving unit; and

a print instruction generation unit for generating a print instruction including print image data and transmitting the generated print instruction to the printer, if the interruption controller detects that the interruption event transmitted by the printer is the corresponding interruption event which is generated and transmitted by the operation panel controller of the printer in accordance with the print instruction button being operated subsequently to the operation of the preview display button.

2. to 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) A print system according to Claim 1, wherein the printer includes a direct print controller for effecting printing without not through the host computer so that printing is executable with the printer alone, when the preview display button has not yet been operated but the print start instruction button is operated.

6. to 19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) A print system according to Claim 1, wherein the control unit generates the print data ~~the host computer further~~ comprises a generating unit for receiving image data read out from a detachable memory card of the printer, and generating

corresponding to the print setting information; from the received image data in accordance with print setting information of the image data displayed by the display unit.

21. (Currently amended) A print system according to Claim 1, wherein; ~~at every interruption event which is generated and transmitted by the printer in accordance with the print setting button being operated subsequently to the operation of the preview display button; display control the~~ update unit updates the image data displayed by the display unit causes the display apparatus to effect [[the]] print preview display such that in which the print setting information included in the discriminated print setting event changed at every interruption event is reflected in the displayed image data.

22. (Currently amended) A print system according to Claim 20, wherein the printer starts printing on the basis of a [[the]] print instruction transmitted by the host computer when the host computer receives the print start interruption event transmitted by the print start event transmitting unit corresponding to the operation of the print instruction button of the operation panel.

23. to 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A control method of a print system[[,.]] in which includes a printer arranged to connect to a host computer via and a host computer, each of which includes a communication interface, wherein the printer includes a read-out unit for reading out image data from a recording medium on which the image data is recorded, an operation panel

having thereon a print start button, a print setting button, and a preview display button, a printer engine for performing printing, and a print control unit for, in response to depression of the print start button, generating print data from the image data read out by the read-out unit in accordance with print settings provided based on operation of the print setting button, and for causing the print engine to print the generated print data for transmitting and receiving information in real time, are connected to each other to communicate with each other; comprising the steps of:

controlling the printer, comprising:

transmitting the image data read out by the read-out unit to the host computer via the communication interface if the preview display button of the operation panel is depressed, and generating a print setting event and transmitting the generated print setting event to the host computer, if the print setting button is operated after the preview display button is once depressed;

generating a print start event and transmitting the generated print start event to the host computer, if the print start button is operated after the preview display button is once depressed;

receiving print data which the host computer transmits to the printer on the basis of the transmitted print start event, and controlling the printer engine by the print control unit to print the received print data,

controlling the printer engine by the print control unit to print the received print data, and

controlling the host computer, comprising:

receiving the image data transmitted in the print setting event transmission in accordance with depression of the preview display button, and displaying the received image data on a display apparatus;

discriminating the print setting event transmitted to the host computer in the print setting event transmission and updating the image data displayed on the display apparatus, in accordance with the discriminated print setting event; and

discriminating the print start event transmitted in the print start event transmission to the host computer and generating the print data from the image data transmitted to the host computer in the print setting event transmission, and transmitting the generated print data to the printer via the communication interface.

reading out image data from a detachable recording medium of the printer;
receiving an instruction from a user through an operation panel of the printer, wherein the operation panel includes a plurality of operation members, each for receiving an instruction from a user, the plurality of operation members including at least a print instruction button, a preview display button, and a print setting button;

effecting control so as to print the image data read out from the detachable recording medium of the printer if the print instruction button is operated by the user without operating the preview display button, and if one of the print instruction button and the print setting button is operated by the user subsequently to operation of the preview display button; generate a corresponding interruption event to transmit the generated interruption event to the host computer via the communication interface of the printer so that the printer engine effects printing in accordance with a print instruction including print image data being received from the

host computer when the print instruction button is operated subsequently to the operation to the preview display button of the operation panel;

transmitting to the host computer the image data which is read out in the reading-out step; and

controlling the host computer, comprising:

receiving, from the printer, the print setting information generated by the printer and the image data read out from the detachable recording medium of the detachable recording medium of the printer if the host computer receives the interruption event transmitted by the printer, which is the corresponding interruption event generated and transmitted in the control effecting step of the printer in accordance with the print setting button being operated subsequently to the operation of the preview display button;

causing a display apparatus to effect a print preview display on the basis of the print setting information and image data received in the receiving step; and

generating a print instruction including print image data and transmitting the generated print instruction to the printer, if the host computer receives the interruption event transmitted by the printer, which is the corresponding interruption event generated and transmitted in the control effecting step of the printer in accordance with the print instruction button is operated subsequently to the operation of the preview display button.

26. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 25, wherein the printer controlling step control includes a step of effecting printing without not through the host computer so that printing is executable with the printer alone, when the preview display button

has not yet operated but the instruction-receiving step receives the instruction from the user with the print start instruction button of the operation panel is operated.

27. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 25, wherein the host computer generates the print data the host computer controlling step further comprises a step of receiving image data read out from a detachable memory card of the printer, and generating print data corresponding to the print setting information; from the received image data in accordance with print setting information of the displayed image data.

28. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 25, wherein the at every interruption event which is generated and transmitted by the printer in accordance with the print setting button being operated subsequently to the operation of the preview display button; preview display effecting step the displayed image data is updated includes a step of causing the display apparatus to effect [[the]] a print preview display such that in which the print setting information included in the discriminated print setting event changed at every interruption event is reflected in the displayed image data.

29. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 27, wherein the printer control controlling step includes a step of starting printing on the basis of a [[the]] print instruction transmitted by the host computer when the host computer receives the transmitted print start interruption event corresponding to the operation of the print instruction button included in the operation panel.

30. to 31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A print system according to Claim 1, wherein the print system is arranged such [[so]] that in a case where the host computer effects [[the]] print preview display, the host computer generates print data and the printer receives the print data generated by the host computer and prints the generated print data, and, in a case where the host computer does not effect the print preview display, the printer generates print data and prints the print data generated thereby.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) A control method according to Claim 25, further comprising a step of effecting control such [[so]] that in a case where the host computer effects [[the]] print preview display, the host computer generates print data and the printer receives the print data generated by the host computer and prints the generated print data, and, in a case where the host computer does not effect the print preview display, the printer generates print data and prints the print data generated thereby.

35. (Canceled)

36. (New) A print system according to Claim 1, wherein the display unit displays the received image data with character information indicating a setting of size or type of a print sheet, thereby effecting a preview display.

37. (New) A print system according to Claim 1, wherein the update unit updates the image data displayed by the display unit in response to receiving of the print setting event such that the image data is subjected in real time to one of a plurality of image processes including color correction, rotation, inversion and trimming.

38. (New) A printer arranged to connect to a host computer via a communication interface, comprising:

- a read-out unit for reading out image data from a recording medium on which the image data is recorded;

- an operation panel having thereon a print start button, a print setting button, and a preview display button;

- a printer engine for performing printing;

- a print control unit for, in response to depression of the print start button, generating print data from the image data read out by the read-out unit in accordance with print settings provided based on operation of the print setting button, and for causing the print engine to print the generated print data;

- a print setting event transmitting unit for transmitting the image data read out by the read-out unit to the host computer via the communication interface if the preview display button of the operation panel is depressed, and for generating a print setting event and transmitting the generated print setting event to the host computer, if the print setting button is operated after the preview display button is once depressed;

a print start event transmitting unit for generating a print start event and transmitting the generated print start event to the host computer, if the print start button being operated after the preview display button is once depressed; and

a receiving unit for receiving print data which the host computer transmits to the printer on the basis of the print start event transmitted by the print start event transmitting unit,

wherein the print control unit controls the printer engine to print the print data received by the receiving unit.

39. (New) A control method of a printer arranged to connect to a host computer via a communication interface, comprising:

reading out image data from a recording medium on which the image data is recorded;

operating an operation panel having thereon a print start button, a print setting button, and a preview display button, a printer engine for performing printing;

generating, in response to depression of the print start button, print data from the read-out image data in accordance with print settings provided based on operation of the print setting button, and causing a print engine to print the generated print data;

transmitting the read out image data to the host computer via the communication interface if the preview display button of the operation panel is depressed, and generating a print setting event and transmitting the generated print setting event to the host computer, if the print setting button is operated after the preview display button is once depressed;

generating a print start event and transmitting the generated print start event to the host computer, if the print start button is operated after the preview display button is once depressed;

receiving print data which the host computer transmits to the printer on the basis of the transmitted print start event, and

controlling the printer engine to print the received print data.